



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin – Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced today that a federal grand jury sitting in Madison returned a four count indictment on August 24, 2005 charging Jason William Abney, DOB: 03-24-1979, of Rice Lake, Wisconsin, with one count of conspiring to manufacture methamphetamine and three counts of possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute. If convicted, the defendant faces a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment, a \$1,000,000 fine, and a term of three years supervised release on each count of the indictment.

The charges against the defendant were the result of an investigation conducted by the Barron-Rusk Drug Enforcement Group, the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation – Narcotics Bureau, and the West Central Drug Task Force. Prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Peter M. Jarosz.

You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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